

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference DAW1392	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/GB2004/003214	International filing date (day/month/year) 26/07/2004	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 25/07/2003
Applicant KOHLER MIRA LIMITED		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 4 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. ☐ With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. ☐ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box II).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box III).

4. With regard to the title,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regards to the drawings,

- a. the figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 3

☐ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☒ as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

- b. ☐ none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A47K3/40

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHEDMinimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 A47K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	DE 197 46 944 A (HUBER MAXIMILIAN) 29 July 1999 (1999-07-29) the whole document	1-40
X	DE 86 10 935 U (FLACHGLAS AG) 26 June 1986 (1986-06-26) page 2, line 1 - page 4, line 26; claims 1,6; figures 1,2	1-14, 18-24, 26-40
A	US 2002/041954 A1 (HENRICHS PAUL ET AL) 11 April 2002 (2002-04-11) paragraph '0001!; claim 1 -/--	1,2

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

11 October 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

21/10/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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Authorized officer

Zuurveld, G

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	DATABASE WPI Section Ch, Week 199415 Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; Class A18, AN 1994-124175 XP002300207 -& JP 06 073243 A (TONEN SEKIYU KAGAKU KK) 15 March 1994 (1994-03-15) abstract -----	1,9,10
A	DATABASE WPI Section Ch, Week 199705 Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; Class A25, AN 1997-047041 XP002300208 -& JP 08 300375 A (KANTO JIDOSHA KOGYO KK) 19 November 1996 (1996-11-19) abstract -----	1,20-23, 36-38

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB2004/003214

Patent document cited in search report			Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
DE 19746944	A	29-07-1999	DE	19746944 A1	29-07-1999
DE 8610935	U	26-06-1986	DE	8610935 U1	26-06-1986
US 2002041954	A1	11-04-2002	DE	10033260 A1	21-02-2002
			AU	5430001 A	17-01-2002
			CA	2352540 A1	10-01-2002
			CN	1333127 A	30-01-2002
			CZ	20012486 A3	13-02-2002
			EP	1172203 A1	16-01-2002
			JP	2002086656 A	26-03-2002
			NO	20013392 A	11-01-2002
			NZ	512827 A	20-12-2002
			PL	348554 A1	14-01-2002
			ZA	200105385 A	01-07-2002
JP 6073243	A	15-03-1994	NONE		
JP 8300375	A	19-11-1996	NONE		

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT

To:

see form PCT/ISA/220

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY (PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) see form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet)

Applicant's or agent's file reference
see form PCT/ISA/220

FOR FURTHER ACTION
See paragraph 2 below

International application No.
PCT/GB2004/003214

International filing date (day/month/year)
26.07.2004

Priority date (day/month/year)
25.07.2003

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC
A47K3/40

Applicant
KOHLER MIRA LIMITED

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☒ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

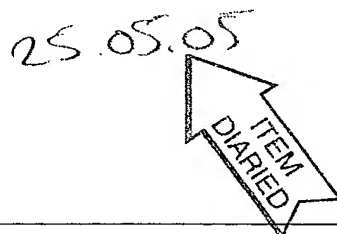
2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will usually be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA"). However, this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of three months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.



Name and mailing address of the ISA:



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WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

10/565892

International application No.
PCT/GB2004/003214

IAP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 24 JAN 2006

Box No. I Basis of the opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 - ☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material:
 - ☐ a sequence listing
 - ☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material:
 - ☐ in written format
 - ☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing:
 - ☐ contained in the international application as filed.
 - ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 - ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/GB2004/003214

Box No. II Priority

1. ☒ The following document has not been furnished:

☒ copy of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43*bis*.1 and 66.7(a)).

☐ translation of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43*bis*.1 and 66.7(b)).

Consequently it has not been possible to consider the validity of the priority claim. This opinion has nevertheless been established on the assumption that the relevant date is the claimed priority date.

2. ☐ This opinion has been established as if no priority had been claimed due to the fact that the priority claim has been found invalid (Rules 43*bis*.1 and 64.1). Thus for the purposes of this opinion, the international filing date indicated above is considered to be the relevant date.

3. Additional observations, if necessary:

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43*bis*.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	1-40
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	1-40
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-40
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING
AUTHORITY (SEPARATE SHEET)**

International application No.

PCT/GB2004/003214

IAP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 24 JAN 2006

Re Item V.

1. The following documents are referred to in this communication:

D1 : DE 197 46 944 A (HUBER MAXIMILIAN) 29 July 1999 (1999-07-29)
D2 : DE 86 10 935 U (FLACHGLAS AG) 26 June 1986 (1986-06-26)
D3: US 2002/041954 A1 (HENRICHS PAUL ET AL) 11 April 2002 (2002-04-11)
D4: DATABASE WPI Section Ch, Week 199415 Derwent Publications Ltd.,
London, GB; Class A18, AN 1994-124175 XP002300207 -& JP 06 073243 A
(TONEN SEKIYU KAGAKU KK) 15 March 1994 (1994-03-15)
D5: DATABASE WPI Section Ch, Week 199705 Derwent Publications Ltd.,
London, GB; Class A25, AN 1997-047041 XP002300208 -& JP 08 300375 A
(KANTO JIDOSHA KOGYO KK) 19 November 1996 (1996-11-19)

2. INDEPENDENT CLAIMS 1 AND 26

- 2.1 The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject-matter of claim 1 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT. Document D1 discloses (see the corresponding passages cited in the search report):

a composite article (cf. fig. 1) having an upper member (1) of plastics material and a lower member (3) of plastics material that together form an outer shell, and an inner core of filler (7) within the shell.

Therefore, the subject-matter of claim 1 is known from D1.

- 2.2 Since the features of the subject-matter of method claim 26 are corresponding to the features of the product as defined in claim 1, this claim neither fulfills the requirements of Article 33(1) PCT.
- 2.3 Besides, the subject-matter of claim 1 and claim 26 is also known from D2, see the corresponding passages cited in the search report.

3. DEPENDENT CLAIMS 2-25, 27-40

Dependent claims 2-25, 27-40 do not contain any features which, in combination

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING
AUTHORITY (SEPARATE SHEET)**

International application No.

PCT/GB2004/003214

with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of novelty and/or inventive step (Article 33(2) and (3) PCT), see documents D1-D5 and the corresponding passages cited in the search report.